[English]

West Zone Food Ministers' Conference

3613. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of West Zone Food Ministers has been held at Ahmedabad recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the matter discussed and the suggestions made thereat; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Conference of Food Ministers of West Zone States was held on 14.2.1997 at Ahmedabad.

(c) and (d) The prospect of higher procurement of foodgrains in the region and the preparedness for launching of the targetted PDS were discussed in the meeting. The State Governments were advised to take action as per the guidelines issued for the targetted PDS. The new scheme of PDS was generally well received by the States.

Ban on Open Sale

3614. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of corruption charges against the officials of the Food Corporation of India, private traders and mill owners, the Government have decided to immediately ban the open market wheat allotment;

(b) whether the Government have also issued directions to the Food Corporation of India to allow the States to decide the percentage of wheat to be sold through the Public Distribution System and by open sale;

(c) if so, the main points of the decision taken by the Government in the matter;

(d) whether reports about the position of wheat in the country have been obtained from the States in January, 1997; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir Presently, the Open Market Sale Scheme of Wheat is valid upto 31st March, 1997.

(b) and (c) In December, 96, the Government directed the Food Corporation of India to communicate the State-wise monthly ceiling of open sale wheat to States/UT's for distribution through Distnct Officers. The earlier System of selection of allottees was to continue only in those States/UT's where they were not willing to take over this Scheme.

(d) Yes Sir, from the States holding stocks for the Central Pool.

(e) The stock position of wheat in the Central Pool at the end of January, 1997 was estimated at 50.80 lakh tonnes, including 23.42 lakh tonnes and 3.78 lakh tonnes held by Punjab and Haryana State Governments respectively for Central Pool

[Translation]

Service Rule for Government Employees of Chandigarh

3615. SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal regarding formulation of service rules for the Government employees of Chandigarh is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) In accordance with the extant instructions contained in MHA Notification dated 13th Jan., 1992, the Conditions of Service of persons appointed to the Central Civil Services and Posts under the administrative control of the Administrator of Union Territory of Chandigarh shall, subject to any other provision made by the President in this behalf, be the same as the Conditions of Service of persons appointed to corresponding Posts in Punjab Civil Services and shall be governed by the same Rules and Orders as are for the time being applicable to the latter category of persons.

[English]

Compensation to the Families of the Victims

3616. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY :
DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :